



*Carolina
Country*
December 1977

People

Alexander (Al) Mendaloff, Jr. of Statesville has been named administrator and secretary of the North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority. He succeeds J. D. Patterson, who resigned to become manager of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corp., Farmville. As administrator of the Commerce Department agency, the 54-year-old Mendaloff will be responsible for processing federal loan applications for rural electric and telephone cooperatives, as well as handling consumer complaints. Mendaloff previously operated construction and engineering equipment companies in Statesville.



A member of the board of Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville, a Sanford woman and a Randolph County farmer have been named by Gov. Jim Hunt to the N.C. Rural Electrification Authority. The new members, all appointed to four-year terms, are **James Melton** of Hubert, owner and operator of New River Nursery and secretary-treasurer of Jones-Onslow EMC; **Emily Eason** of Sanford, a former Cumberland County Register of Deeds; and **Russell C. Seawell**, a former chairman of the Randolph County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Dr. Harold D. Coble, associate professor of crop science at N.C. State University, has been cited for his weed control studies by the American Soybean Association. He received the organization's 1977 research and education award.

The National Association of County Agricultural Agents has singled out six North Carolina extension workers to receive 1977 Distinguished Service Awards for their educational programs. They include three county agents and three county chairmen. The agents are **Earl H. Smith**, Henderson County; **Clifton Grimes**, Gates County; and **Marshall Bowden**, Vance County. The chairmen are **Max Erwin**, Gaston County; **B. T. McNeill**, Cumberland County; and **William Walker**, Pender.

Smith was cited for his work with 4-H members; Grimes, for his leadership in swine and soybean production; and Bowden, for his work in livestock production and marketing.

McNeill's educational programs in vegetable production, rural housing and community development earned him the national award. Erwin and Walker were both cited for overall leadership.

A Christmas scene drawn by **Bill Dail**, eight-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Dail of Raleigh, has been selected by the American Lung Association to represent North Carolina on 1977 Christmas seals. The boy, now in the third grade, painted the picture as a first grader. It was selected as a Christmas seal design in a national contest. A total of 54 children's art designs are featured on the seals.

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Striking Out With Power Theft

"Three strikes and you're out!" That's one of baseball's cardinal rules, but a Franklin County man discovered recently that an even tougher standard applies in the game of power theft.

It seems he bridged the electric meter base at his home on two occasions—once in September and again in October—and enjoyed the use of some unmetered electricity. The first time his meter tampering was discovered, he drew stern warnings about the practice from his power supplier, Wake Electric

Membership Corporation, Wake Forest.

Editorials

When he bridged the meter the second time, the EMC had a warrant issued against him under the state's new meter-tampering law, which went into effect Oct. 1. Under the statute, any meter which has been tampered with, altered or bypassed can be considered *prima facie* evidence of a violation of the law.

Once in court, the man struck "out" and was given a four-month jail sentence, suspended for three years, and fined \$75 and court costs. He had already paid the EMC for the estimated amount of power he had stolen.

The penalty could have been far more severe, for the statute calls for a fine of up to \$500 or imprisonment for up to two years, or a combination of the two. In addition, the utility could have collected triple the amount of the loss, up to a total of \$500.

The conviction apparently is the state's first under the meter-tampering law.

It should serve as a warning to others who aspire to greatness in the "sport" of stealing power: the umpires of the Tar Heel justice system are alert to every "swing" at the meter box "home plate."

And, according to their tough new rulebooks, it takes no more than one "swing" to strike out in this arena.



The Passing Scene

- Bill Jordan of Buckner, Mo., has become the 1977 Missouri champion cow chip thrower with a 174-foot toss of a buffalo chip. Alas, his mark was 20 feet short of the national record. He'll get another shot at the record when he takes the Missouri colors into the International Cow Chip Throwing Contest in April at Beaver, Okla.

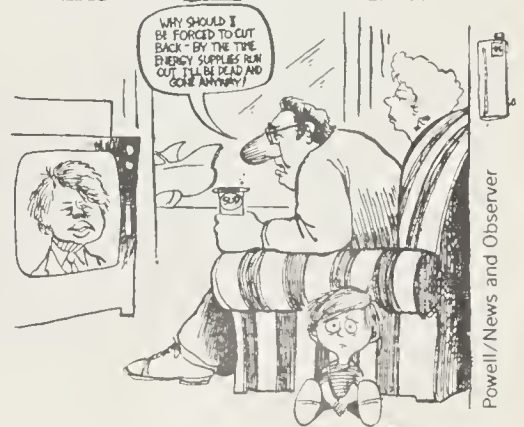
Whatever became of marbles?

- A New York newspaper recently carried a story about a court indictment against a former executive of Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. He was indicted, the story said, "on charges of having stolen most of \$1 million in corporate money that was supposedly being used for illegal political campaign contributions."

Who said there's honor among thieves?

- The Post Office in Akron, Ohio, recently refused to accept a bundle of mail from a wholesale grocer because of a comment printed in the corner of the envelopes: "If not delivered in ten days—that's about normal."

The truth hurts—even in jest.



Carolina Country

Read Monthly In More Than 260,000 Homes
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North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation
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In This Issue . . .

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COVER—This photo, effectively showing some of the decorative symbols of the holiday season, originally appeared on the cover of *Illinois Rural Electric News*, the publication of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. It was made by Jim Bass, who was then associate editor of the magazine. Our thanks to Editor Larry Elledge, who payed Santa Claus for us by giving permission for our use of the photo.



rural electric Notebook

HELMS BACKS ANTI-PANCAKING

North Carolina's Sen. Jesse Helms has vigorously endorsed legislation to outlaw "pancaking" of bulk power rate hikes by power suppliers. "Pancaking," the practice of filing new rate increases with the Federal Power Commission before the agency has ruled on a previous increase, would not be permitted under an amendment to the Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act of 1977, now before the U.S. Senate.

In remarks delivered to the Senate on Oct. 6, Sen. Helms said: "The most recent FPC data indicates that at least 14 wholesale suppliers have two or more applications pending at the same time, affecting approximately 371 wholesale purchasers. The regulatory lag and resulting pancaking of rates frequently gives rise to a price squeeze whereby the wholesale rate being paid is in fact higher than the supplier's retail rate for comparable service, a situation which is inequitable and which can have an anticompetitive effect.

"In North Carolina, for instance, there are currently three 'pancakes' on the plate. On January 2, 1975, Carolina Power & Light requested a 97 percent wholesale rate increase. On May 1, 1976, an additional 34 percent was requested on top of the requested 97 percent. In December of this year,

another 7.5 percent increase request is contemplated. This represents a total of 184 percent increase from the pre-1975 rate. Yet the Commission has issued no final order on any of these increase requests.

"There is little disagreement in the electric utility industry that the regulatory lag, payments subject to refund, and pancaking, works to the detriment of all parties -- purchasers and sellers alike. This is a very real problem. Often, when the FPC finally renders its decisions, a great portion of the requested increase is denied."

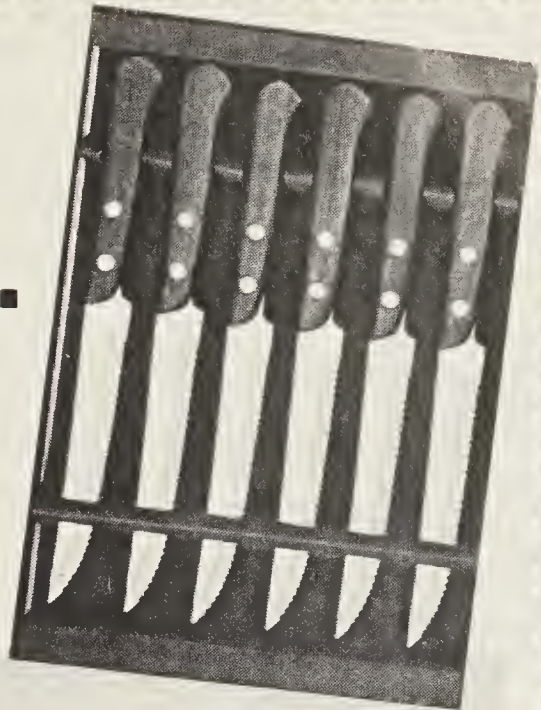
NUCLEAR MILESTONES

The development of nuclear power passed two significant milestones in recent months. In the U.S., nuclear energy surpassed hydroelectric power as a source of electricity generation, while in England, nuclear fission produced more power than all of the country's oil-fired power plants.

In the first six months of 1977, nuclear power plants produced 12 percent of U.S. electricity and hydro generation accounted for 10.7 percent of the national electrical output according to Federal Power Commission figures. The statistics rank nuclear just below natural gas, the nation's third place fuel for electricity generation with 13.2 percent of the total. Oil ranks second at 17.8, with coal ranking number one at 46.1 percent

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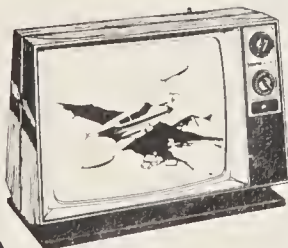
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Clearing The Way For Ownership Of Generation

North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations are reorganizing their statewide trade association in an effort to clear the way for the acquisition of power generating facilities, according to association officials.

Under the new structure, which becomes effective Jan. 1, 1978, the state's rural electric cooperatives will be members of an association made up of three corporations.

They are:

- The newly chartered North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives (N.C.AEC), which will encompass public relations, communications, government relations, and personnel development functions, as well as coordinated statewide job training and safety services.

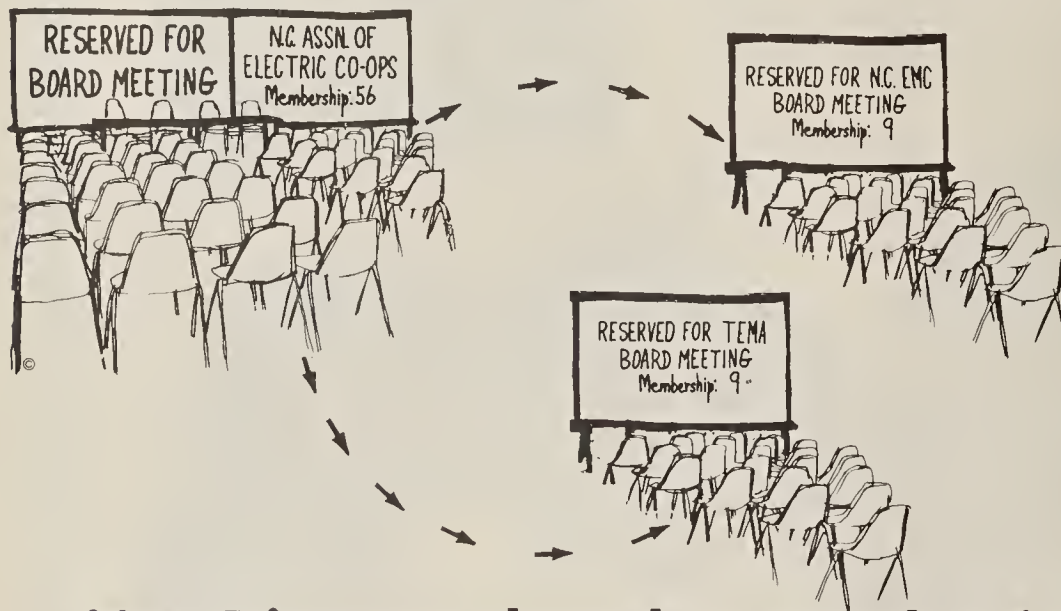
- North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation

(N.C.EMC), which has previously served as the administrative umbrella for power supply activities and all of the services now being transferred to the new corporation, will function only in power supply matters. If and when the organization acquires power generation facilities, they would be acquired by this corporation.

- Tar Heel Electric Membership Association (TEMA) will continue serving as the central materials supply and purchasing arm of the state's EMCs.

All three corporations will be administered by Alton P. Wall, who'll hold the title of executive vice president and general manager in each of them.

Wall took the reigns of the statewide EMC organization in October, after serving as acting manager since April. Prior to that, he was manager of Randolph EMC, Asheboro, for 29 years.



New Directors Elected To Boards Of N.C. EMC, TEMA

TEMA OFFICERS



Hutchins



Browning



Hinson

Two EMC directors and 16 EMC managers have been elected to the Boards of Directors of N.C.EMC and TEMA as part of the reorganization of the state EMC association.

They take office on January 1, 1978.

In N.C.EMC, Tom Cockerham of West Jefferson, president of Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, is the lone EMC director on the board. He'll serve with eight EMC managers: Hugh Crigler, Davidson EMC, Lexington; Donald Rice, Crescent EMC, Statesville; Marvin Marshall, South River EMC, Dunn; Douglas Leary, Wake EMC, Wake Forest; Earl Ross, Piedmont EMC, Hillsborough; L. P. Beverage, Four County EMC, Burgaw; Edward E. Brown, Albemarle EMC, Hertford; Alvin Morton, Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville.

Elected to serve as officers were: Alvin Morton, president; L. P. Beverage, vice president; and Douglas Leary, secretary.

In TEMA, Horace Moore of Snow Hill, vice president of Pitt & Greene EMC, Farmville, is the only EMC director on the board. The eight managers are Charles Tolley, French Broad EMC, Marshall; John Browning, Haywood EMC, Waynesville; Kelly Hutchens, Surry-Yadkin EMC, Dobson; Bob McDuffie, Randolph EMC, Asheboro; Derl Hinson, Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs; Robert Holmes, Tri-County EMC, Goldsboro; Robert Hubbard, Brunswick EMC, Shallotte; and B. F. Morton, Carteret-Craven EMC, Morehead City.

Elected to serve as officers were: Kelly Hutchens, president; John Browning, vice president; and Derl Hinson, secretary.

N.C. EMC OFFICERS



Morton



Beverage



Leary

ilities

He'll report to a 56-member board of directors for N.C.AEC and two separate nine-member boards for N.C.EMC and TEMA.

The larger board, which has been overseeing all statewide EMC operations, is composed of a manager and a director for each of the 28 member EMCs. Under the new plan, this board will meet quarterly.

The smaller boards, which will be made up of members of the larger board, will meet monthly.

"In this reorganization, we're simply trying to set our house in order for the time when EMCs can move into ownership of power generation facilities," Wall said.

The EMCs now own no such facilities and, as a result, are dependent on the investor-owned power companies for power supply. They have been negotiating with Duke Power Co. and Virginia Electric and Power Co. about buying a share of planned nuclear generating plants.

Meanwhile, the cooperatives are studying the possibility of using peat in Northeastern North Carolina to generate electric power.

"If and when we can strike a deal that'll put us in the generating and transmission business, we have to operate it and nothing else under N.C.EMC, according to the terms of that corporation's original charter," Wall pointed out.

The current N.C.EMC/TEMA officers will continue to serve in that capacity for N.C.AEC until the three organizations hold their joint annual meeting next March.

The present officers are Marvin Marshall, manager of South River EMC, Dunn, president; Tom Cockerham of West Jefferson, a director for Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, vice president; and Ed Brown, manager of Albemarle EMC, Hertford, secretary-treasurer.

Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir, has been chosen by the U.S. Department of Energy to operate one of the world's two largest wind-powered electric generators.

A 2,000-kilowatt wind turbine generator, with the capacity to furnish the electric power needs for about 500 homes, will be built on Howard's Knob overlooking Boone in Watauga County. The unit will have blades measuring 200 feet from tip to tip and will need 29-mph winds to reach its rated output.

Winds up to 65-mph were recorded on the 4,200 foot mountain during a one-year test funded by the U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration, and conducted by Blue Ridge EMC.



A wind-powered electric generator, similar to this one, will be built in Watauga County.

Cooperative To Operate Wind-Powered Generator

A cooperative spokesman emphasized that while the wind generator will furnish electric power for the Blue Ridge EMC system, the primary aim of the program is research.

Maurice Rhodes, the EMC's director of communications, said he believes wind generation can contribute "significantly" to the nation's energy needs, but that it is only a partial answer.

"The problem is the relatively small amount of electricity generated by wind generators, even those the size of the one being built on Howard's Knob," Rhodes said. "It would take approximately 500 wind generators the size of this one to generate the same amount of electricity as one large nuclear plant. There just aren't enough sites available with sufficient winds for this type of electric generation to have a large

impact on the nation's energy supply."

The Blue Ridge generator will cost the U.S. Department of Energy about \$3.5 million. Researchers will be seeking the answers to a number of questions, including: What is the average amount of electricity a wind generator can produce over a period of time? What will be the environmental effects of a wind generator of this size on the surrounding community? And what can be expected of a wind generator of any particular size?

Blue Ridge EMC was one of 17 utilities vying for contracts to operate wind generators. Of these, Clayton, New Mexico; Block Island, Rhode Island; and Culbera Island, Puerto Rico were chosen for smaller 200-kilowatt wind generators. The location of the second 2,000-kilowatt generator has not been announced.

Photo by Bill Boyarsky



Photo by Bill Boyarsky



Photo by Jim Thornton



Photo by Jim Shaw

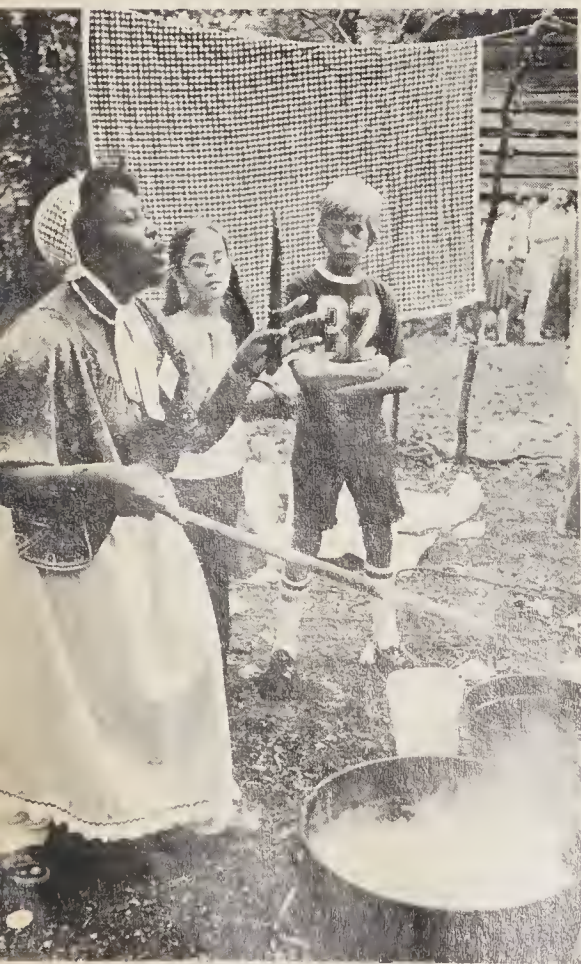


Photo by Bill Boyarsky

Dust Off the Banjo

Culture Is Not A Highfalutin' Word

There's a new program in North Carolina that's making people aware of the cultural richness of their everyday lives: story telling in the mountains; net making on the coast; making goat cheese in the Piedmont; folk music and dancing; and scores of other activities throughout the state.

The N.C. Department of Cultural Resources has established an Office of Folklife Programs to revive an interest in our rich cultural heritage. Established last May with a grant from the N.C. Bicentennial Foundation, the Folklife Office has a primary first-year mission of organizing a statewide Folklife

Festival scheduled for June 1-4, 1978, on the banks of the Eno River in Durham.

The festival will be patterned after a 1976 Folklife Festival that won rave reviews. About 100,000 people gathered at Durham's West Point to share—not merely observe—three days of lively music, dancing, stories, food and craftsmanship—folkways that form the backbone of North Carolina's cultural heritage.

One newspaper called the event a "miracle." "The Greensboro Daily News" reported that there was a "...general raising of the consciousness of the people, which results in a heightened

awareness of the value of not only themselves but of their cultural traditions as well.

"It was simply the finest collection of native musicians, dancers, storytellers, craftsmen, and tradespeople this state has ever seen together for one event, and every region and facet of folklife was represented by the nearly 300 participants."

It's going to be done again. Participants are expected to include "down easterners" showing people how to filet fish, build boats and tie fishing nets; mountaineers to share time-honored songs and dances and to demonstrate the art of piecing elaborately designed quilts.

Feasts of hickory-smoked barbecue will be prepared by Piedmont old-timers. Others will be on hand to sing blues and spirituals and call old-fashioned square dances.

Indian tribes plan to be on hand to weave colorful baskets and to share unique recipes and dishes. The Greek-American community is expected to make souvlaki and to teach hundreds to dance the "syrtos." Plans are for a group of Dutch immigrants now settled in Beaufort County to distribute tulip bulbs and to perform native hymns and folksongs.

Anyone interested in participating, or anyone who knows someone who might be a good candidate, should write to Office of Folklife Programs, N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, N.C. 27611, describing the individual and the skill.

Much more is planned. George Holt, director of the Folklife Office, said he and his staff are now searching for new participants for the Folklife Festival.

"We're not interested in crafts that are hobbies," Holt said. "We're looking for traditional music, food, various occupations and skills, and crafts that have

HELP WANTED

In addition to the Folklife Festival, the Folklife Office is involved in a program to introduce public school students to traditional folk music through performances and discussions. Co-sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, "Folk Music in the Schools" has already reached more than 40,000 students.

The office also hopes to develop special performances, exhibitions, demonstrations, workshops, community forums, publications, films, videotapes and recordings—all aimed at stimulating awareness of the special beauties of the state's true heritage, and to awaken in each person a desire to have a strong creative role in shaping that heritage for future generations.

But Folklife is a new program and it needs public support, including financial help. The Folklife Festival alone will be a costly production. Admission must be kept at prices everyone can afford if it is to be truly a people's event. Generally, the "fine arts" have received the bulk of private and public funding assistance. Director George Holt says contributions of any amount—even one or two dollars—will be gratefully accepted.

Send to:

Office of Folklife Programs

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

been passed down through the generations."

The festival will feature six major staging areas. The Coastal, Mountains, and Piedmont areas will each have stages for music and dancing, as well as sections for demonstrating area crafts, trades and cookery. A "main stage" area will accommodate larger numbers of people for concerts and dances representing all three regions. A variety of activities and demonstrations are planned for the children's area, where participation will be especially emphasized.

Another special area is planned for good old-fashioned sitting and

talking. In this quiet, relaxed section, a little removed from the hubbub of the rest of the festival, a time and place will be provided for reminiscing, swapping stories, holding workshops, and discussing regional issues.

Holt emphasized that the festival is not just about the past.

"We won't be presenting historical re-creations or re-enactments," he said. "All of the activities will have roots in the past, but they will also be activities that are happening in North Carolina today."

"We want the people to tell the story of North Carolina."

Photo by Bill Boyarsky



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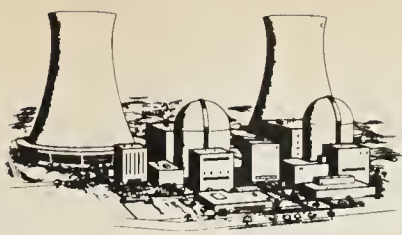
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commentary

Nuclear Plant Needed

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission concluded hearings in October on plans for the proposed \$4.2 billion Shearon Harris nuclear power plant, which Carolina Power and Light Co. plans to build in Wake County. The editorials reprinted here appeared in Wake County newspapers while the hearings were in progress.

The Shearon Harris nuclear power plant is going to be built, and consumers of Carolina Power and Light electricity are going to have to pay the \$4,200,000,000 that's the current guess about its price tag.

That four billion dollar investment may prove to be far the costliest temporary expedient ever undertaken in these parts—but a necessary one.

The strongest opponent to speak at the current Harris plant hearings here, physicist Amory Lovins, feels nuclear power generation has had it for purely economic reasons, without even bringing in safety concerns, local or worldwide. He likens the nuclear industry to a brontosaurus that's had its spinal cord cut but keeps thrashing around for years, with the Harris plant, presumably, representing one of the thrashes.

But here and now, this brontosaurus is all we've got.

There is, quite simply, no alternative available soon enough to satisfy the demand for power in Wake and eastern North Carolina. Even if the Harris plant gets built on schedule, a power pinch is likely in the last years before it goes on line in 1984. When it does, CP&L will still have less than 10 percent reserve capacity instead of the recommended 15 or more.

That is why the state Public Staff for utilities concurs in asking speedy final approval of the Harris project—

approval that could, federal nuclear officials say, come within a few months and let construction start after a long six years of delays.

In a democracy, the tragedy of matters as technical as this is that we laymen have no choice but to trust one set of experts or another. We feel a good deal better about going along with the Public Staff's opinion, shared by the Utilities Commission's new chief and members, because these are people whose expertise and concern for the public's good we have reason to trust, so far at least.

It is not that the Public Staff isn't concerned about finding alternative energy sources, or about safety on the nuclear route. It's simply that it sees no feasible way for CP&L to keep the wattage up for our homes, businesses and industries without the Shearon Harris plant.

Neither do we.

—The Raleigh Times

The entire world is making continuing greater demands for energy, and the problem is not simply one of reducing demand but of finding better ways for providing the energy. At this, nuclear power is accepted as the most viable.

Considering safety, economy, ecology, and need, the arguments over the proposed Shearon Harris nuclear power plant should be settled immediately...the extended delay has been costly. The price must be paid. Nothing will be accomplished by more waiting except to impose ever-higher bills for electricity on Tar Heel consumers.

—Gold Leaf Farmer, Wendell

Keep Mobile Homes Out from Under Power Lines

Those overhead power lines may look secure enough as they stretch across space from one pole to another, but a storm can change that situation in a flash. That's why it's such a dangerous practice to place mobile homes beneath those power lines. Storm-damaged lines could easily fall unto such homes, possibly killing or seriously injuring the occupants. At right, South River EMC Member Relations Director F.

B. Keith, left, points out the potential hazard to the owner of a mobile home located under power lines near Benson.



Sam West: "Singing for the joy of it."

By Ellen Stein

ASHEBORO—Even after he'd passed 60 and gone blind in one eye and deaf in one ear, Sam West was a big-shouldered man who wore a gun under his coat and patrolled the back roads all night long with the sheriff's department.

gather in the sound booth of a radio station and pour the old songs out over the airwaves.

Their programs always include a hymn or two, "mostly for the older folks, though you'd be surprised at how the young ones like it, too."

that way in the studio. Some of those singers in Nashville, like Ray Price, they're so good they'll tear your heart out.

"But we're not like that. We're just amateurs, singing for the joy of it."

One summer day about 10 years ago, the Friendly Four sang in five different churches, pausing between programs only long enough to gulp down a glass of water. "I had to go home and change my shirt three times," Sam recalls. "It just melted on me."

Facing South

Voices of Tradition In A Changing Region

During the daytime, he worked as bailiff at the courthouse, keeping order for the judge and supervising prisoners on trial. "Anything that could possibly go on in a courtroom," he says, "I guess I've seen it."

But no matter how much he saw, Sam never really got used to it. He couldn't make himself tough inside.

One day, there was a domestic case being tried, and as the man and woman spoke to the judge about their broken hopes and misspent faith, Sam suddenly felt his brain exploding with sparks of sadness.

Poetry In Courtroom

He found a pencil and paper, and right there in the courtroom he sat down and wrote a poem about love. "This heart is tender and dear to me," he wrote. "Please treat it kind and tenderly."

Sam won't show people his poetry unless he's coaxed a bit, but his neighbors are quite familiar with the spiritual side of his nature. For the past 30 years, Sam has been known for miles around as a man of music, singing a steady, warm-voiced baritone for the Friendly Four gospel quartet.

He figures he's sung at almost every church in Randolph County, as well as at dozens of others in surrounding counties and on up into Virginia. On Sunday mornings, his voice can be heard for 60 miles as the Friendly Four

Then there are the joyful, rousing songs that set the audience to clapping in a fever of high spirits.

Programs Include Hymns

And finally, there are Sam's favorites—the old, slow songs done in close harmony, rich with a vision of peace but always shading out into life's dark corners.

For these songs, such as "God Shall Wipe Away All Tears" and "Saviour, Gently Take Me Home," Sam wrote poems to read as recitations between verses. Accompanied by low humming in the background and gentle ripples on the piano, he recites quietly, following the rhythms of his own heartbeat.

"I marvel at nature's great wonder," he would say. "At seed, that, before living, must die. At the rolling of earthshaking thunder, and lightning that fills all the sky."

Sam West is not a professional musician. Before his retirement, he used to have to beg time off work to sing for funerals, and the Friendly Four never asked for a dime wherever they went. No one ever stopped to count the thousands of miles they traveled or the thousands of dollars they helped raise for charity.

Sing For The Joy Of It

"We don't sound like professionals," Sam says. "We made a record one time in Charlotte that sounds better than we do in real life—they fixed it up



Something special happened that day. As Sam dashed out of the house after his third change of clothes, his shirt still unbuttoned and flying out behind him, he overheard his wife talking to their little boy.

"Son," she said, "that's your daddy. That's what kind of man he is."

Ellen Stein is a Chapel Hill freelance writer.

*Copyright © 1977 Samuel West

Q: How reliable have electric utilities been over the years in delivering power to customers?

A: The track record has been pretty good. In fact, the industry has historically had greater than 99 percent reliability in providing service to customers.

Q: Can that record be maintained for the future?

A: That's one of the industry's primary goals—making sure the electric power system works the way it should so that power outages are avoided and electricity is there when the customer needs it.

Q: What measures has the industry taken to assure this reliability?

A: Major steps were taken with the formation of the North American Power System Interconnection Committee (NAPSIC) in 1962 and the National Electric Reliability Council (NERC) in 1968. Both organizations function to assure the continued reliability and adequacy of the bulk power supply system of electric utilities in North America.

Q: What is "bulk power supply?"

A: This refers to the part of the electric power system

responsible for the generation of electricity at the power plant and for its transmission from the power plant to neighborhood substations and to neighboring utilities.

Q: What other parts of the power system are there?

A: There's also distribution. That refers to the transfer of electricity from the neighborhood substation directly to homes, businesses, and factories.

Q: Why do the NERC and NAPSIC concern themselves with only the bulk power system? Isn't the reliability of the distribution system important too?

A: Yes. But the impact of any system disturbance or failure would be far more serious if it

could set off a chain of events resulting in widespread outage.

Q: Why doesn't this happen more often, then?

A: Basically because the bulk power system in North America is planned, designed, constructed, and operated according to very strict reliability standards to assure that it will be immune from widespread collapse. These standards are established by the NERC in each of nine regions in the country. NERC then acts as a coordinator of standards in the regions to make sure that a high level of reliability is maintained in all.

Q: What other measures has the industry taken to assure reliability?



Assuring Availability Of Power

were to occur in the bulk power network than in the distribution system.

Q: Why is that?

A: Because outages in the distribution system affect only local areas and small numbers of people. Major problems with the bulk power network, however, can affect much larger areas.

Q: How large an area could that be?

A: It could be a whole section of the country. The transmission network in North America is highly interconnected. If something goes wrong anywhere along the way, it could conceivably have a "cascading" effect causing widespread damage and outages.

Q: What sorts of things could cause damage?

A: Acts of nature, such as wind, lightning, icing, tornadoes. Also equipment failures or acts of human interference. Any of these events could cause damage in one part of the system which

A: Through its research organization, the Electric Power Research Institute, the industry is studying ways to improve its methods of planning and operating bulk power systems. Much of the work involves the development of new or improved computer methods for analyzing problems and controlling operation of the system.

Q: What additional steps should the industry take for the future?

A: The industry must insure that adequate generating capacity is constructed to meet future electricity needs. It must also insure that all parts of the transmission network continue to meet the reliability standards set by the NERC.

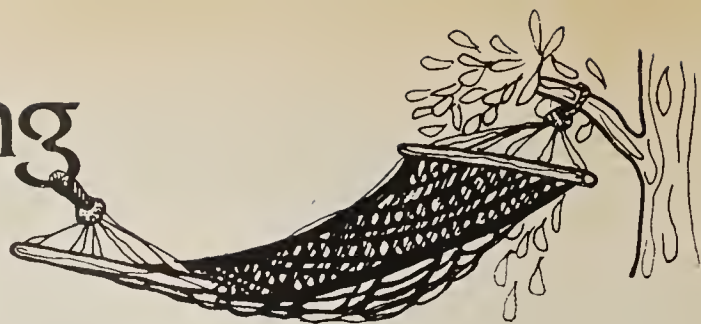
Q: What's in all this for the customer?

A: Continued reliability of service. In other words, electricity will be there when you need it.

Savings Suggestions



Beauty and the Beast: fireplaces are a thing of beauty, but they can cost you much more than they need to. Make sure you have a tight-fitting damper and keep it closed when the fireplace is not in use. Be sure your thermostat is located away from such heat sources.



Saving Energy In The Kitchen

Some cooks use 50 percent more gas and electricity than others to prepare the same meals.

Energy-saving techniques can cut those kitchen costs significantly, say agricultural extension specialists at North Carolina State University.

Only about 40 percent of the energy used in cooking in the average kitchen goes into the food cooked. The other 60 percent is wasted—absorbed into the kitchen equipment itself or ventilated into the room.

This is the loss that can be cut.

In general, the smallest unit that can be used to prepare a dish is the most economical.

For instance, it costs twice as much to bake two medium potatoes in a standard electric range for 45 minutes at 375 degrees than in a toaster oven.

And, in both ovens, you can halve that potato-baking time by inserting a heat-conducting aluminum nail in the center of each potato.

Simpler appliance models are usually energy savers too, but don't overestimate the annual dollars involved.

As an example, although the self-cleaning ovens use additional energy during the cleaning cycle, the extra energy-consumption cost could be less than \$3 annually.

Why? Because the self-cleaning ovens have better insulation and are therefore more efficient in everyday energy use.

The pot used and its type and size, affect the cooking efficiency of any kitchen range, either gas or electric.

On an electric range, the pot should completely cover the heating coil or portion of coil used. Electric range tops deliver about 60

percent of the available heat to the pan.

A gas top burner has an average delivery of 50 percent of available heat to the pan. However, high efficiency in getting gas from the wellhead to your range is what makes natural gas relatively economical.

To save gas, adjust the flame to the pan size. Flames should never lick the sides and usually shouldn't contact the bottom of a pan. A blue flame is the most efficient.

New gas ranges that eliminate the continuously burning pilot light can cut up to 20 to 30 percent from the total amount of gas energy used.

Here are 15 fuel-saving tips to follow when cooking:

- Don't preheat the oven unnecessarily. When you do preheat, don't set the temperature higher than desired. It won't make the oven heat any faster.

- Cook several foods in the oven at the same time. If recipes call for varied temperatures, use the average and remove each dish when it's done.

- In oven cooking, never handle food on the rack while the oven is on and the door open. When you must work on the food while it's cooking, take it out of the

oven and close the door quickly.

- Don't open the door unnecessarily to check the progress of baking. Every opening loses about 25 degrees.

- Turn off the heat before cooking is finished. Let residual heat complete the job.

- Make certain all equipment is clean and functioning properly. Dirty or malfunctioning equipment is likely to need more energy.

- Tailor the element to the pan's size. Too large a unit wastes heat.

- Cook food in as little liquid as possible. Cooking time is less.

- When frying use a moderate temperature — from 325 to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

- When feasible, thaw frozen foods in the refrigerator before cooking.

- For top-of-the-range cooking, use the smallest pan possible.

- Use a cover when cooking on top of the range or in an electric fry pan except when you want a crisp-dry surface or to thicken liquid.

- To cook for long periods, use the oven or electric fry pan whenever possible, instead of the range top.

- Use the most efficient utensil for the appliance.

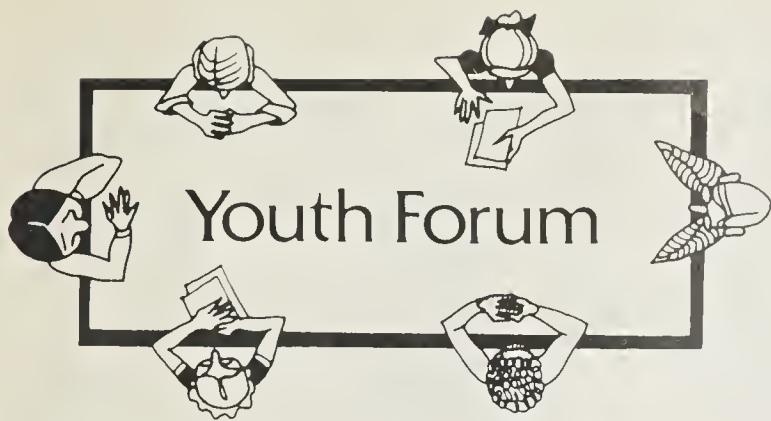
- Don't use the oven to heat the room. It isn't safe.

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Do you think that there's too much violence on T.V.?

"Yes! Good gracious, every time I turn on the T.V. somebody is either shooting or stabbing someone else. They need to replace all of those police and detective shows with something good and clean. Television should try to be constructive and teach good standards instead of so many destructive things."

Lisa Hudson
Goldsboro

Lisa is 12 years old. She enjoys horses, softball, and arts and crafts. She and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Hudson, are served by Tri-County EMC.

"Definitely not. I think violence is needed for some shows in order to get the point across. Most detective shows are just trying to show how cruel some of the people in this world are. Violence happens every day. At least on television we can see the crooks, robbers, or murders captured, when half of the time in real life, they get away. If all there was on T.V. were comedies and musicals, who'd watch T.V. any more? And if they took off all the violent T.V. shows, the 6 o'clock news would be the first to go."

Janet Beard
Fayetteville

A freshman at Terry Sanford Senior High School, Janet is 14 years old. She likes to skate and uses some of her free time at the Cape Fear Valley Hospital as a volunteer "candystriper." She and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Colon Beard, are served by South River EMC.

"Yes, because when most Americans turn on their T.V. sets, there is usually a picture of some kind involving violence. Even some comedy hour programs and cartoons have violence in it, even though it is in an amusing form. Violence on T.V. causes hatred to grow within younger children and makes them do things they usually see others do. I think that pictures involving violence should be cut off or at least put on at late hours."

Carolyn Felton
Hertford

A junior at Perquimans County High School, Carolyn enjoys baseball and football, as well as reading, sewing, and writing stories and poems. She and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie E. Felton, are served by Albemarle EMC.

"Certainly. Too many T.V. shows are broadcasted seemingly without regard to all the children and more refined people in the T.V. audience. Shows often begin with a statement that this program has a theme suited for a "mature" audience. But who is more mature, the person who thrives on T.V. garbage as this, or the person who has the taste and class to get up and turn the channel?"

"Baptists have launched a campaign against sex and violence as is depicted on T.V. I hope it has a strong influence, because it would be better that several of these shows be terminated."

Phil Searce
Havelock

Phil is a sophomore at Havelock High School. He enjoys working on his car and watching football. He and his parents are served by Carteret-Craven EMC.

"Yes, I think there is too much violence on T.V., but if those who like violence can't see it on T.V., they will go to the movies that show them. I think you can't change some people's choice. I would like to see more educational programs like history, science, nature and adventures of early pioneers."

Lisa Renee Fiedler
Marshville

Lisa, a fourth grader at Union Elementary School, is 9 years old. She likes to sew and play checkers and dominoes. She and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Fiedler, are members of Pee Dee EMC.

NEXT QUESTION: "Do you think the death penalty should be abolished?"

If you have a good answer, send it to YOUTH FORUM, Carolina Country, P. O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611 immediately. Tell us a few facts about yourself -- your age, school, hobbies, etc. Include your parents' name and the name of the electric membership corporation serving you. If your answer is published, we will send you \$5. If you want to submit a question, send it along and for each one used, the sender will receive a \$5 check.

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Country Kitchen



ONION SOUP

Just in time for the holiday rush, Cissie Brooks' recipe for Onion Soup can help the busy housewife serve her family a hot, nutritious meal that won't require hours in the kitchen. Served with a salad, hot rolls or sandwiches, this recipe can solve the during-the-holidays menu problem.

The aroma of this delicious soup, wafting through the house during the holidays, is sure to bring all family members running!

If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: Country Kitchen, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. We pay \$5 for published recipes.

COUNTRY KITCHEN RECIPE

Submitted by Cissie Brooks of Wilmington, N.C.

ONION SOUP (baked)

2 lg. onions
1 T. flour
2-3 T. butter
Salt & pepper

6 beef bouillon cubes
6 c. water
6 oz. Swiss cheese
6 slices French bread, 1" thick
Parmesan cheese

Saute onions in butter, add flour, salt, pepper, bouillon cubes, water; bring to a boil and simmer 25 minutes. Toast bread sprinkled heavily with Parmesan. Put soup in oven bake casserole, drop bread on top and bake at 425 degrees for 15-20 minutes—then turn on broil about five minutes.

NOT A DRUG

**Amazing "Burn-fat-by-the-hour" program
Developed by Doctors at Boston Medical School**

BURNS AWAY MORE FAT EACH 24 HOURS THAN IF YOU RAN 14 MILES A DAY!

**Incredible "Crash-Loss" Breakthrough Reported in Reader's Digest Works So Fast
You Can Actually Measure the Difference In Your Waistline In Just 24 to 48 Hours!**

Yes, LOSE up to 6 POUNDS the first 48 HOURS — LOSE up to 12 POUNDS the first 7 days — LOSE up to 4, 5, even 7 POUNDS MORE the next 7 days — and continue to burn away as much as 7 to 9 pounds more fat every 2 weeks thereafter, (if you still need it) . . . until you've finally lost 50 — 70 — 100 pounds OR MORE . . . without fasting, without constant willpower, without constant pangs of hunger or a single moment of body-racking exercise!

Recommended by the U.S. Government's very own doctors to members of Congress who want to lose weight fast . . . Hailed as the weight-loss "breakthrough of the century" by leading medical journals . . . here at last is the most effective NO-DRUG program for FAST — INSTANT — PERMANENT LIFETIME WEIGHT-LOSS ever made available to the public without a prescription!

**WORKS SO FAST THE FIRST WEEK ALONE
YOU LOSE AS MUCH AS 1½ TO 2 POUNDS
OF BOTH FLUID AND FAT EVERY 24 HOURS!**

Direct from the pages of the N.Y. Times and Reader's Digest comes reports of an incredible "fat burning" breakthrough by medical researchers at one of Boston's foremost medical schools! Reports of a new "crash-loss" program (featuring a remarkable natural substance) that safely yet surely steps up FAT-BURNING METABOLISM . . . forces your system to ATTACK bulging pockets of fat . . . and starts to shrink and burn that fat in just a matter of hours!

Yes, from one of New England's leading medical centers comes the new SUPER FAT-BURNER way to turn up your "inner furnace" . . . unlock those clinging pockets of fat . . . break them down SO FAST . . . you burn off excess bulge at the unbelievable rate of up to 6 POUNDS of both fluid and fat GONE the very first weekend alone!

Think of it! You actually burn away more fat each 24 hours than if you ran 12 to 14 miles a day! Lose more inches each week than if you did 300 sit-ups each morning and 300 push-ups each night! Actually LOSE as much as A FULL SIZE THE FIRST 7 DAYS . . . and from 3 to 5 inches off your waistline the very first month!

That's right! Weight-loss results and inches-off wonders that absolutely stagger the imagination. Just look:

**U.S. ARMY OFFICERS LOSE WEIGHT 3
TIMES FASTER THAN EVER BEFORE!**

Case History #1: When medical researchers in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Los Angeles first tested this new hi-amino concept on a scientific weight-loss program . . . they reported astonishing results of as much as 12 POUNDS LOST IN JUST THE FIRST 7 DAYS! — 16 to 18 pounds gone by the end of week number two — and most mind-boggling of all — U.S. Army Officers actually losing weight 3 times faster than ever before! As much as 50 POUNDS GONE, like that!

**WAISTLINES SHRINK UP TO 3 INCHES
IN 7 DAYS — A FULL 5 INCHES
SMALLER IN A SINGLE MONTH!**

Case History #2: When first rumors of this

medical breakthrough leaked out to professional actors, actresses and celebrities . . . they immediately rushed to the offices of America's leading weight-loss specialists to get their hands on this "magic compound"; and no wonder! Because the first week alone they carved away as much as 2 pounds a day . . . 13 pounds a week . . . were forced to take in their belts 3 notches smaller in just 10 days!

**DOCTORS REPORT: AVERAGE LOSS —
57 POUNDS!**

Case History #3: But most significant of all . . . when universities, hospitals and medical schools, (such as New York's Leading Medical School and Cleveland's largest hospital) tested this newly discovered "crash-loss program" on patients who all their lives had been hopelessly overweight . . . they reported astonishing losses of as much as 2 pounds a day at the start . . . 20 to 30 pounds a month . . . as much as 70 pounds lost over a single summer season! — by simply stepping up their fat-burning metabolism and burning, melting, oxidizing 50, 70, 100 pounds of hard-set fat . . . FASTER, SURE than they had ever dreamed possible!

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Think of it! A medically proven formula that is such an effective reducing aid . . . that when combined with the food you eat on this "crash-loss" program . . . burns off as much fat each 24 hours as if you jogged up to 14 miles a day . . . or played 3 hours of tennis in the most brutal heat!

The name of this wondrous amino formula is "THERA-SLIM-100" and here is precisely how you use it to win the body and figure of your dreams as you:

**LOSE UP TO 4 TO 6 INCHES OFF YOUR
WAISTLINE
LOSE UP TO 2 TO 5 INCHES OFF YOUR
HIPS
LOSE UP TO 3 INCHES OFF YOUR
THIGHS
LOSE UP TO 4 INCHES OFF YOUR
BUTTOCKS
LOSE UP TO 4 INCHES OFF YOUR
STOMACH**

and as we've said before, starting not in weeks, but in mere days.

**HELPS YOUR BODY CONVERT STORED UP
FAT TO BURNED UP ENERGY!** At this very moment — having read this far — you are but one short step away from LIFETIME IMMUNITY TO FAT! Now comes your FINAL

**GIANT STEP into a whole new world of LIFE-
TIME SLIMNESS**

Of course, there is one thing you must keep in mind. With the "THERA-SLIM-100" way to LIFETIME SLIMNESS you cannot gorge yourself on all sorts of fattening foods, candies and desserts. Not that you'd ever want to, because with "THERA-SLIM-100" — due to your new, stepped up metabolism — besides enormous weight-loss you also experience a loss of hunger. Which makes it one of the easiest ways to lose weight fast. Now here's how simple it is:

STEP #1 — YOU EAT

In addition to the wide and tasty selection of food you enjoy morning and night, (all scientifically programmed to help maintain a high-level of FAT BURN-OFF) . . .

STEP #2 — YOU TAKE "THERA-SLIM-100"

hi amino compound.

Once a day, you take "THERA-SLIM-100" in a glass of water, (just like refreshing fruit juice). This hi-amino intake helps keep the fat-burning chain-reaction going ALL 24 HOURS OF THE DAY — NON STOP!

**STEP #3 — YOU HAVE AUTOMATICALLY
STEPPED UP YOUR FAT-BURNING METABOLISM — SO YOU AUTOMATICALLY BURN OFF
EXCESS WEIGHT!**

In virtually no time at all, you make your inner furnace accelerate fat burn-off. Safely, gently, yet surely you cause a gradual change in your fat-burning metabolism as you "rev-up" that inner furnace.

The result: Your body begins to eliminate stored-up fat and fluid at a rate so incredibly fast, the very first weekend alone YOU DRAIN AWAY AS MUCH AS 5 OR 6 POUNDS!

In short, with the "THERA-SLIM-100" weight-loss program, you force your body to automatically convert body fat to body fuel . . . automatically shrink fatty cells . . . drain off excess flab . . . flush it right out of your system ONCE AND FOR ALL!

Never before has medical science offered you a surer, faster, more effective weight-loss method, (short of total fasting) than this super fat-burning breakthrough development at one of Boston's Leading Medical Schools.

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RESULTS HAVE BEEN PROVEN BEYOND A
SHADOW OF A DOUBT BY MEDICAL SCHOOLS**

— HOSPITALS — DOCTORS — AND SCORES
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NOW THE FINAL STEP IS UP TO YOU!

REMEMBER: You must see dramatic results in just 24 hours — results you can measure with both your scale and your tape measure you must lose.

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or it costs you nothing! Simply return within 10 days for full refund (except postage and handling, of course) Act now!

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IF YOU READ NOTHING ELSE — READ THIS!

What you see on this page is the announcement of the latest breakthrough by medical science in the war against fat. Developed at one of Boston's leading medical schools, the incredible weight-loss results this new "crash-burn" program delivers are so astonishing (average loss 57 lbs.) it has been featured in every leading medical journal . . . given headline coverage in such outstanding publications as *Reader's Digest* and the *New York Times*, to mention just a few: Aside from — ABSOLUTE STARVATION — there is no surer, faster, more effective way to slash away pounds and inches than with this Boston Medical School discovery.

However, before starting we advise you to consult with your physician to be sure you are in normal health and your only problem is obesity. Individuals with gout, heart disease, diabetes or pregnant women should not use it at all. As a matter of fact, we insist that you show this entire program to your family physician . . . have him check you regularly to make sure you're not losing too much, too fast . . . and advise when you've lost enough. See if he doesn't agree that the "THERA-SLIM-100" road to Lifetime Slimness, including the recommended progressive daily toneup, isn't by far the most effective approach to the conquest of obesity ever developed by medical science.

Div. of American Consumer, Inc.

Some people who find themselves pulled in two different directions often become frustrated, taking one route but often wishing they could have chosen the other.

Dan Andrews of northern Harnett County is pulled in two directions, but has no such frustrations, for he has a substantial farm operation that has taken him down two separate routes at the same time: It combines both timber and row crops.

On the "farm" side, he has 200 acres of soybeans, 150 of corn, 60 of tobacco and has employed a 20-year rotation of small grain and fescue in combination with his tobacco crop. The small grains have included oats, wheat, rye and barley.

On the "forestry" side, he is managing 1,000 acres of timber—enough to require a full-time crew at certain seasons to help with pulpwood operations. But saw timber for lumber is what Dan Andrews concentrates on.

Through the years, he has received assistance both from the

Soil Conservation Service and the North Carolina Forest Service on his woodland operation.

Conservation is equally important. A variety of proven measures can be seen on the farm, which has been termed a "model of conservation."

District Conservationist Parks Blake of Lillington has assisted with ponds—no less than 15 are on Andrews' land, ready for fishing, irrigation and stockwater—as well as tile drainage, grassed waterways and field borders. Dan Andrews calls the assistance of Parks Blake "a real help."

Dan Andrews is actually named for a historic American figure—his full name is Daniel Boone Andrews, Jr. Like his namesake, he loves the woods.

Most of the timber is pine, since this is preferred by the pulp buyers who buy the timber Dan Andrews chooses to cut. But hardwoods also abound in the woods—to provide food and habitat for wildlife, which he also considers an asset.

Dan Andrews also loves the part of Harnett County where he lives and where the family has an

attractive, modern residence. The home is less than half a mile from where he was born.

Dan Andrews combines "farm" and "forestry" without conflict or frustration.

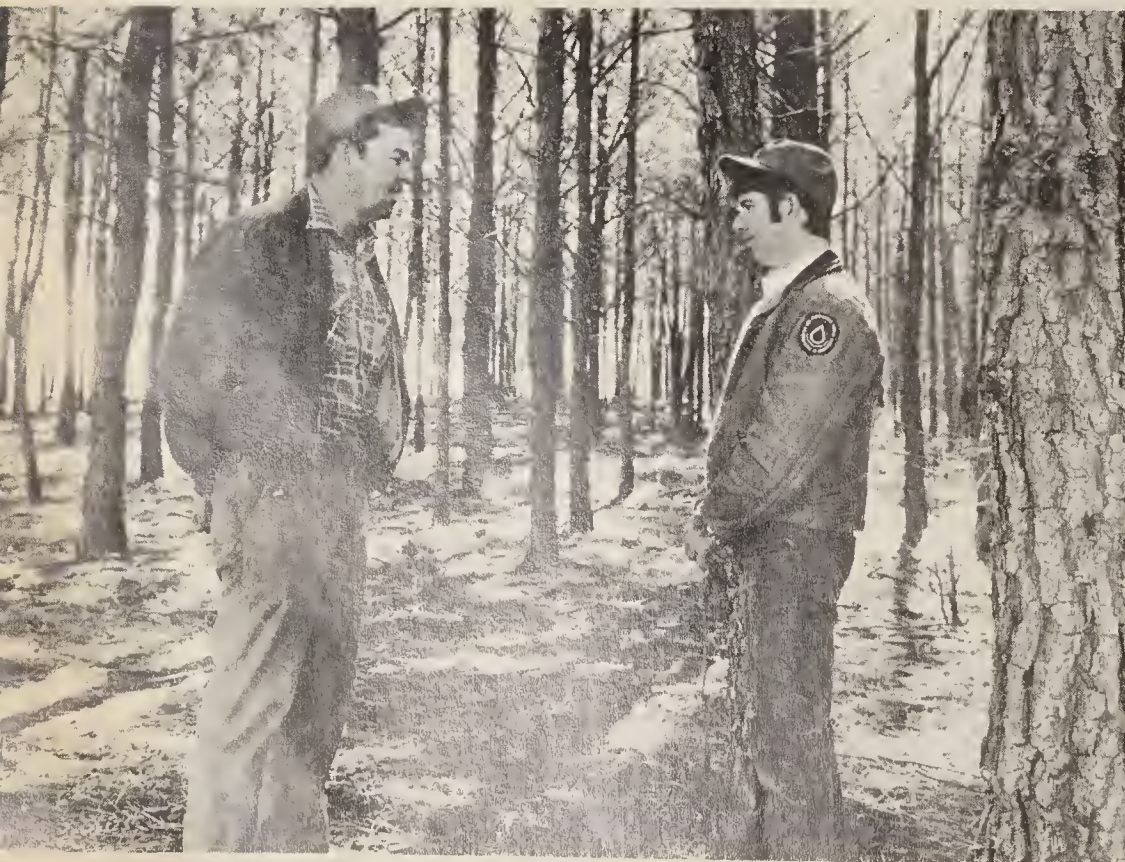
Here he and his wife, Joyce, are raising their two sons—William Dan, nine and "Boonie," six.

Dan Andrews is such a strong believer in conservation that he served 15 years as a supervisor of the Harnett Soil and Water Conservation District, lending his leadership to encourage others to adopt the measures he believes in.

He is also president of the Fuquay Cooperative Warehouse, located across the county line in neighboring Wake County although the Andrews family lives in Harnett, their mailing address is actually Rt. 2, Fuquay-Varina. Andrews is also director of the Neil's Creek Ruritan Club.

And Dan Andrews has no conflict, no frustration in accomplishing all of these goals.

Harnett Farmer Takes Two Routes



Text and photo by Frank Jeter, Jr., public information officer with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service in North Carolina.

Standing in a tract of well-thinned pine timber on his Harnett County farm, Dan Andrews of Rt. 2, Fuquay-Varina, discussed conservation measures with Soil Conservation Service District Conservationist Parks V. Blake.

Controlled burning is a standard practice to improve timber stands on the Andrews farm.

New Tax Law To Affect Some Farmers

A new law becomes effective January 1, 1978, which will require some North Carolina farmers to pay unemployment insurance taxes to the state and federal governments.

The 1976 Congress extended unemployment insurance coverage to certain agricultural workers for the first time, and the State legislature this summer amended state statutes to comply with the federal bill.

Administered by the Employment Security Commission, the amendments are not expected to affect a significant number of Tar Heel farmers because they apply only to growers with large farming operations.

Here are the new tax requirements:

1) Farmers who pay \$20,000 or more in cash to workers for agricultural labor in any calendar quarter in the current or preceding calendar year will be liable for unemployment insurance taxes.

2) Farmers who employ ten or more workers for 20 days in 20 different weeks during the current or preceding year will also be required to pay UI taxes. In other words, to become liable the farmer must have 10 workers on any day of the week for 20 weeks, not necessarily consecutive.

The UI tax is 2.7 percent of the first \$6,000 paid to each covered worker and an additional .7 percent of the same wage base is paid the federal government.

Taxes are paid quarterly to the Employment Security Commission and annually to the federal government.

Even though ESC officials expect a minority of farmers to be covered by the law, they want all farmers to be aware of their potential tax liability. If they should discover they're covered by the law months or even years after the effective date, their tax payments will be retroactive.

Farmers liable under the new law will have accounts established by the Employment Security Commission. The agency has 80 offices serving all 100 counties, and farmers are advised to contact the one nearest their residence if they feel the amended law applies to their operation.

ESC tax auditors will be contracting agricultural employers in the near future to determine farmers' liability.

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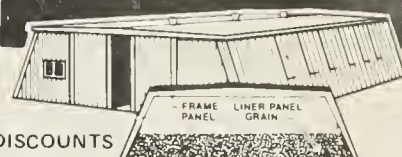
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These reflections on the holiday season—and the memories associated with it—were written by Edward E. Brown, Jr., manager of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, Hertford, and a former member of the **Carolina Country** staff. In them, he shares the Christmas memories which have been dearest to him through the years—memories of a beloved grandfather. The piece and the samples of the grandfather's poetry below first appeared in **Albemarle Sounds**, the Albemarle EMC newsletter.

Now is the holiday season. Thanksgiving is just past and the savory tastes of turkey, dressing, potato pie and all the trimmings are the first sign of that magic time of year.

Christmas is just 'round the corner. And so it's perhaps a time for reflections. A time for reminiscing. A time to momentarily forget the problems of the world and to be thankful for our many blessings. What do you remember?

I remember those youthful, anxious moments the night before Christmas. Try as I might, I couldn't sleep in anticipation of Santa's annual visit.

The soft, red glow of candles in the windows, the brightly lighted tree, the Christmas scenes atop tables here and

there. Oh! And those delicious chocolate drops...and tangerines—all these things and more:

The visits to both grandparents' homes...the larger trees...the colorful packages stacked everywhere...turkey and ham and cakes and pies...and aunts and uncles and cousins, too!

But as much as anything I think of him. Born just 25 years after the War Between the States, I wonder what his Christmases were like...before the turn of this century...two World Wars...and the Great Depression, too. What was it like? I wish I knew.

I grew up just across the road from him where he ran a country store. Wonder why those things weren't important to me then? Oh, we had our share of conversations—from civil rights to John Steinbeck. I wish there had been more serious moments I could recall.

Just the same, I learned from him. I'll never forget as he grew older that he needed help to walk the few steps to his house next door. So, early in the morning and as darkness came, some of us tried to make a point to be there to offer a steadying hand.

He had more than his share of the afflictions of old age along with the polio he contacted as a child. I, on the other hand, felt the boundless strength of youth.

Memories: *The* Most Cherished

How very well do I remember
How I watched the dying ember
In the fireplace of the house
 where I was born
How I watched the shadows stealing
O'er the walls and on the ceiling
Bringing the fancies my illusion to adorn

There thought I, the elves and fairies
In those shadows surely tarries
And their castles made of clouds
 and thistle down
With their turrets tall and stately
Standing there in view sedately
With hosts of spirites a dancing all around.

Slowly life's sun is descending
Into the abyss of night
The gathering of evening shadows
Omens of time's rapid flight.

Assurance the dawn of tomorrow
Attending the close of life's day
The evening star in its brightness
Brings hope to our souls with its ray.

There's nothing to fear from the
 tempest
Though angry and dark are the skies
Just follow the course as it's charted
Therein a safe landing lies.

Of all the memories of my youth
The best without denying
To wake up at the crack of day
To smell the bacon frying
That glorious smell of coffee too
And all the other fixings
Could bring a dead man back to life
And start his "innards" clicking
Alas-alack those days are gone
They're never more returning
But memories lingering in my heart
Still rouse a lusty yearning
And if perchance the hand of time
Should alter things, I reckon
I'd still prefer such scents by far
When Mother fried the bacon.

I wish I knew just what goes on
Inside a feller's head
That sits and stares at "Shoot em ups"
Until his eyes grow red.

With supper o'er and TV on
He soon drifts in a trance
Commercials come, commercials go
He does not change his stance.

They feature pills for all the ills
That earthly mortals know
They peddle beer to bring good cheer
And other "so and so."

If I find out, without a doubt
Much wiser will I be
Why some folk choose to be amused
With all the "tripe" they see.

A Grandfather's Poetic Legacy

Master, I've almost finished my task
The end of the day in sight
Your nod of approval is all that I ask
Ere the approach of night.

The vigor of manhood is almost spent
Strength of my loins has gone
My back with labor is weary and bent
No strength have I of my own.

Good Master, if favor I've found
 in your sight
Grant me beside "still waters" tonight
In green pastures then may I lay.

Let my head be annointed with oil
My cup be filled to the brim
My table be spread with the fruits of my
With Thy mercy that time cannot dim.

I'll never forget helping him to the house one evening, the pain on his face as he paused every step or two to rest and regain his balance.

"Why not let me carry you?" I asked, probably more impatient than trying to be helpful. I'll never forget his short, quick response when he looked me square in the eye and asked angrily, "Don't I have a right to any pride?"

I remember that moment well. And the lesson is apparent. But I wish there were more such memories I could recall. But the chances for such treasures are gone forever. I do have, however, some of the poetry he wrote in his later years which I'd like to share.

His writings remind me of him. They also tell me more about him...his memories of youth...his acceptance of death...his faith in God. He's more special today than ever before. I appreciate him more. I remember him well.

There's someone perhaps with similar meaning to you. I hope so. And for you young people the time you spend with that special older, wise one this Christmas will later reward you many times over—learning of days and customs and experiences long past.

For these things are our heritage. They're too important to go unnoticed and forgotten. They're the most cherished Christmas gifts later in life—the memories of a loved one. In my case, memories of a grandfather.

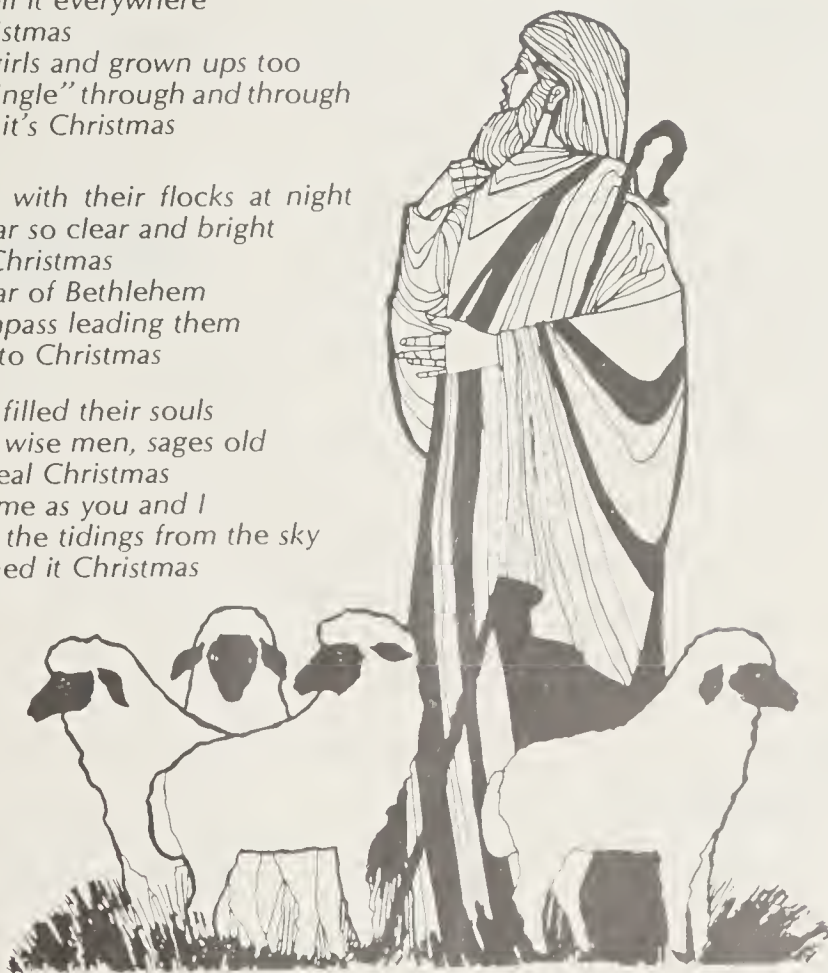
Christmas Gifts



*There's a feeling in the air
You can tell it everywhere
It is Christmas
Boys and girls and grown ups too
Feel the "tingle" through and through
Because it's Christmas*

*Shepherds with their flocks at night
Saw the star so clear and bright
First at Christmas
Saw the star of Bethlehem
Like a compass leading them
Straight to Christmas*

*Adoration filled their souls
And these wise men, sages old
Earth's real Christmas
Felt the same as you and I
And knew the tidings from the sky
Proclaimed it Christmas*



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These are just some of the interesting articles that appeared in *TAR HEEL: THE MAGAZINE OF NORTH CAROLINA* over the past year.

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Refunds Ordered

18 EMCs To Get \$4 Million From CP&L

Refunds of about \$4 million will be coming into the coffers of 18 North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations before the end of the year, as a result of a ruling by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in a rate dispute involving Carolina Power and Light Co.

The commission formally approved an agreement between CP&L and its wholesale customers, including the 18 co-ops and 24 municipal power systems, settling the three-year-old rate case.

The agreement reduces bulk power rates which CP&L put into effect in January, 1975. Those rates represented an increase of 97 percent or \$36 million a year over previous rate schedules.

Off-and-on negotiations between CP&L and its wholesale customers were concluded last summer with the preparation of the agreement, which was then submitted to the federal agency for approval.

The 18 EMCs that buy power from CP&L are: Haywood, Waynesville; Pitt & Greene, Farmville; Four County, Burgaw; Piedmont, Hillsborough; Halifax, Enfield; Randolph, Asheboro; Harkers Island; Brunswick, Shallotte; Jones-Onslow, Jacksonville; French Broad, Marshall; Wake, Wake Forest; Tri-County, Goldsboro; Lumbee River, Red Springs; South River, Dunn; Carteret-Craven, Morehead City; Central, Sanford; Pee Dee, Wadesboro; and Tideland, Pantego.

The agreement requires that the refunds be made within 60 days after a ruling is issued by the commission. Under it, the municipal systems will receive refunds of about \$4.7 million, while the EMCs affected will receive \$4 million.

All refunds will be made in cash.

Each EMC and municipality involved will determine whether or not the refunds should be passed on to their customers.

The FERC decision removes from its dockets the oldest of three pending CP&L rate increase proposals. A second proposal, which became effective in May, 1976, drew a ruling by a commission judge in September, ordering a \$13.5 million rollback in the \$33.5 million rate hike request. That order is now awaiting review by the full commission.

Meanwhile, the newest wholesale rate increase planned by the power company is due to become effective on Dec. 29. That request, boosting rates by about 8 percent or \$10.5 million a year, was filed with the federal agency in July, but its effective date was postponed for five months on a petition by the EMCs.

The usual practice in rate cases of this sort is for the rates to take effect, under bond and subject to refund, pending review by the federal agency.

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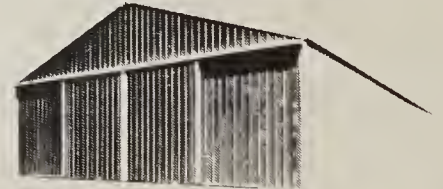
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